

Continued from page 1

FLICKERTAIL–

in Eddy and Wells counties, including up to 113 wind turbine generators.”

Those 113 proposed turbines include both primary and alternate turbine locations.

Munce Tronsgard, Director of Project Development for PRC Wind, told the Transcript that 69 turbine sites are labeled as primary, while 44 are noted as alternate sites. However, she also said the exact number of turbines ultimately built will be contingent on the selection of a turbine manufacturer.

Of the 113 primary and alternate turbine sites, 75 are located within Munster, Gates, Bush, Rosefield and Sheldon townships in Eddy County. Each of these townships have their zoning managed by the county.

Meanwhile, New Rockford and Grandfield townships in Eddy County, as well as Valhalla Township in Wells County, conduct their own zoning and have therefore been sent their own permit applications.

According to those applications, there are 22 turbine locations proposed for Grandfield Township, five for New Rockford Township and 11 for Valhalla Township, which is the only township in Wells County expecting turbines.

Outside of turbines, the county's permit application also outlines other infrastructure required for the project, including a dedicated substation and an approximately 13-mile-long, 345-kilovolt (kV) feeder line, as well as access roads, an operations and maintenance facility, two permanent meteorological towers, an aircraft detection lighting system tower and underground collection facilities.

Flickertail Wind’s size

The permit application sent to Eddy County states that Flickertail Wind comprises 55,000 acres of "leased land" in Eddy and Wells Counties, despite earlier press releases placing its size at 43,000 acres.

The Transcript asked PRC Wind to explain the difference, and Tronsgard said a mistake was made in the wording of the permit, specifically that the word "leased" should have been removed from that sentence.

She confirmed that Flickertail Wind’s project footprint is situated across 55,000 acres of land in Eddy and Wells Counties, but explained that not all of those acres are included in a lease agreement with Flickertail Wind.

From one edge of the project to the other, there are some acres of land which are non-participating and won’t be receiving any turbines or other infrastructure, but which are nonetheless within the footprint of the project.

Turbine model specifications

Since being announced, the proposed wind farm has

Task Name	Start	Finish
Site Prep Work	10/15/26	12/15/26
Winter Stoppage 2027	12/15/26	4/14/27
Roads, Crane Pads, Laydown Yard – Year 1	4/19/27	12/15/27
Winter Stoppage 2028	12/15/27	4/13/28
Roads, Crane Pads, Laydown Yard – Year 2	4/13/28	10/10/28
Foundations	4/26/28	11/9/28
Collections	5/13/28	11/9/28
Turbine Erection	4/13/28	8/11/28
Commissioning	8/11/28	11/9/28
COD	11/9/28	11/9/28

This table outlines the proposed construction timeline included with Flickertail Wind’s permit application.

received significant speculation about exactly what type and how tall its turbines will be.

That question is given more clarity in Flickertail Wind’s permit application.

The model of turbine outlined in the permit is the Nordex N163/5.9, a large variety of turbine with a nameplate capacity of 5.9 megawatts.

It has a rotor diameter of 535 feet and a hub height of between 355 and 394 feet, bringing its total height to anywhere from 624 feet and 661 feet.

However, despite naming a specific turbine model, the permit also states that Flickertail Wind won’t be finalizing a turbine purchase until after permitting, when they’ll know for sure whether the project is moving forward.

“Assumptions and calculations presented in this application are based upon the specifications of the Nordex 5.9 MW turbine model, but the final turbine models and hub height may vary based on the final project design,” the permit states.

In other words, the Nordex N163/5.9 is only the turbine they “anticipate” installing, and is not guaranteed to be the model ultimately erected by Flickertail Wind.

That beingsaid, 5.9 megawatt turbines would be significantly higher capacity than previously anticipated, and should they be selected for the project, Flickertail Wind would require less turbines to reach the project’s 370 megawatt capacity.

The Transcript has previously been told by PRC Wind that the project was estimated to have around 90 turbines, but only 69 “primary” turbine locations are cited in the permit application with the higher-capacity Nordex model.

Project timeline

An estimated construction timeline is also outlined in Flickertail Wind’s permit application.

Their target date for completion is the fourth quarter of 2028, and to finish on time there are a number of milestones they must reach.

Site prep work would start in October of 2026 and wrap up for the winter by December 15, while work on roads, crane pads and temporary storage sites is expected to begin the following spring and continue until December of 2027.

Work would resume in 2028, with the construction of foundations and turbines expected between April and August of that year, and commissioning to be completed by November.

The table outlining the proposed timeline included with the permit is shown above.

Road protection

Among the commitments outlined in the permit application is that Flickertail Wind will enter into “road use agreements” with localities that ensure the protection and restoration of roads used for the project’s construction and operation.

Proposed road use agreements have already been sent to townships in Eddy and Wells counties that fall within the project’s footprint, and are currently under consideration by township supervisors.

“Flickertail Wind will ensure that any damage to county roads, resulting from construction, operation or decommissioning of the project, is repaired or restored to a condition equal to or better than the condition prior to construction at Flickertail cost,” states the permit application.

One road use agreement shared with the Transcript from Grandfield Township states that a qualified civil engineer will be hired to do a full review of road conditions prior to construction at Flickertail’s expense.

The agreement goes on to state that the locality would be responsible for repairing damage to paved roads caused during construction, but would be fully reimbursed by the project developer for those expenses.

Regarding gravel roads, however, the agreement states that the project developer would both pay for and perform repairs during construction.

It also states that the project’s developers would be responsible for grading and maintaining designated chip seal roads and gravel roads, including dust control, and that the developer would be able to improve designated roads as necessary.

More specifically, the agreement states that the developer can widen designated areas, upgrade base thickness and a road’s sur-

face, as well as install driveways and road entrances of designated roads.

However, the road use agreements sent to Grandfield and other townships are merely an initial step of ongoing negotiations. They have not been signed or finalized, and the exact terms of the agreement are subject to change.

Public hearings

Paul White, the CEO of PRC Wind, says their permit applications represent years of collaboration between their company and local landowners.

“Flickertail Wind was built from the inside out,” said White. “Local landowners set the vision and asked us to help design a project that fits the landscape, respects neighbors and delivers lasting value. Filing permit applications is an important milestone, but what matters most is that this project reflects the voices, priorities and values of Wells and Eddy counties.”

And as it happens, residents of both counties will have more opportunities to have their voices heard and priorities expressed regarding the Flickertail Wind project, with more public hearings just over the horizon.

North Dakota law requires townships and counties with siting permit applications from Flickertail Wind, LLC, to hold a public hearing before deciding on those permits.

Each hearing must be held within 45 days of receiving a permit application, and a final decision must be made within 30 days after the hearing.

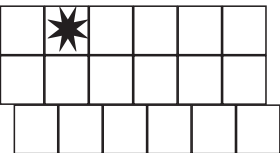
As of press time, neither Eddy County nor the townships of Grandfield, New Rockford and Valhalla had scheduled their public hearings. Once a date and time is selected, they’ll be required to publicly notice the hearing no less than 15 days ahead of the scheduled date.

The permit applications are public documents, and copies of them can be acquired by reaching out to local government officials.

Eddy County has an abbreviated 31-page version of the permit application available on the county’s website at eddycountynd.org.

Sheyenne

by Patti Clifton



Area women attended the Women’s Night Out at the KayElla Photography studio in New Rockford on Monday evening. Sharon Whitmer and Patti Larson took part in the “make your own bouquet” station offered by Gina Clifton of the Flower Scent-R, and they checked out other participating health and wellness vendors.

The Vitalant blood drive was held at the First Lutheran Church in New Rockford on Monday afternoon. June Lewis and Patti Larson got to visit after donating.

Open Season Lodge is hosting a Holiday Vendor and Craft Fair in Sheyenne on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the gymnasium. Lunch of BBQ pork sandwiches and bars will also be available in the FACS room. Call Renae at (701) 302-8318 or Tara at (701) 351-2488 if you wish to be a vendor. There are 14 vendors as of November 23.

The Sheyenne Sunday School Christmas Program is Sunday, Dec. 14 at Grace Lutheran Church at 11 a.m. Lunch following program.

Knock on wood, as of November 24 no snow yet, but in preparation for winter, a sign in the Post Office states:

“Attention Sheyenne City Residents.

“The City Council requests your assistance in clearing parked vehicles from the streets after snowstorms so the snowplow can clean the streets. Failure to comply with this request could result in a \$30 parking ticket. In addition to the fine, if the vehicle is not moved within 72 hours, it will be towed at the owner’s expense. Retrieval of your vehicle will require proof of ownership, proof of insurance, and \$10 for each day it is in the impound lot.”

The North Dakota Forest Service Tree Equity grant wrapped up on Saturday, which was a beautiful day to be outside. Dave Brown did some landscape dirt work in preparation for the trees early Saturday morning to smooth, slope and pack the area where the waterline north of the Sinclair Station had been dug up. Landscapes Unlimited of Devils Lake delivered and planted five Taylor Junipers, one Redmond Linden and one Flame Amur Maple where the scruffy Siberian elms and chunks of cement had been removed earlier this summer. Another Japanese Tree Lilac boulevard tree was planted on Cottonwood Avenue between 4th and 5th Street. Finally, a Dakota Pinnacle Birch tree was planted behind the “Welcome to Sheyenne” sign north of town.

A total of 75 new trees had been planted with grant money in the past two years. Twenty at Hendrickson Park and 12 at the Prairie Dawn Community Orchard were bare root planted by volunteers. Eleven were planted along boulevards by Landscapes Unlimited. Thirty-one can be seen from Main Street on both sides of U.S. Highway 281 through Sheyenne, of which nine were moved in by Todd Heinderschidt and 22 planted by Landscapes Unlimited, as well as the one on the school playground.

Corn harvest has been progressing at a clip with many area farmers finishing up by Thanksgiving.

Since 1921

Ritchie

waters 'em right.

Lic# 71105

Ritchie Cattle Waterers

Sales, Service & Parts

Fresh water on demand

24 hours a day.

KLEMETSRUD

PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Devils Lake

662-4934

Eagles Club

(701) 947-2440

7 8th St S • New Rockford

— Wednesday, December 24 —

Closed due to Christmas Eve

— Thursday, December 25 —

Closed due to Christmas Day

Open Monday through Saturday

4:30 p.m. to close

Kitchen open 5-9 p.m.

We can BEARLY wait to meet

Baby Boy Magnusson

Join us for a baby shower honoring mother-to-be

Kindra (Jacobson) Magnusson

Sunday, December 7, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

St. John's Catholic Church, New Rockford, ND

The Magnussons are registered on Amazon & Central Pharmacy New Rockford.

Consider gifting a book rather than a card to help the new family grow their collection.

Advent Tea

WE LIGHT THE CANDLES

Sunday, December 7 at 2 p.m.

First Congregational Church

Dessert and tea to follow

COME ONE, COME ALL!

In the month of December, the first 100 people who come and shop at the Second Blessings Thrift Store, will receive **\$5.00 off** their purchase. The thrift store is located at the Senior Center in New Rockford.

Open Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Second Blessings Thrift Store
529 1st Ave. N, New Rockford

SHOP WITH THE SHERIFF

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

This program fosters positive relations between law enforcement, the community and children ages 5-12 from all backgrounds by pairing members of the Eddy County Sheriff's Office with the participants to shop for holiday gifts for themselves and their families at local businesses.

If you would like your child to participate in this program, please call or stop by the Sheriff's Office by **Friday, December 12** between 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. to sign them up. It's that easy!

DONATIONS ARE NEEDED

This program is only possible because of the generosity of the great people of Eddy County. If you would like to make a donation please mail it to the address below or stop in at the Sheriff's Office. All donations are greatly appreciated.

The Eddy County Sheriff's Office
524 Central Avenue
New Rockford, ND 58356
Call 947-5515 with any questions